

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

<http://dmh.lacounty.gov>

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Reply To: (213) 738-4925
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August 29, 2008

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health

SUBJECT: **NOTIFICATION OF POSTING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING PLAN**

This is to inform you that the Department of Mental Health (DMH), as required under the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), posted the MHSA draft Workforce Education and Training (WET) Plan for public review and comment from August 29, 2008 through September 28, 2008. It can be accessed at the DMH web site <http://dmh.lacounty.info/stp/>.

Through the collaboration of an Ad Hoc Committee (consisting of representatives from various academic institutions, professional disciplines, labor unions, consumers, parent advocates, and contract mental health agencies) and a stakeholder process, DMH has developed the Plan and will submit for the initial Fiscal Year 2008-09 allocation.

These funds are critical to furthering the Department's commitment to address occupational shortages in the public mental health system. The aim is to continue to support and promote the principles and philosophies of MHSA and to transform the workforce while delivering culturally competent services that are client and/or family driven.

The WET Plan has been posted for public review and comment on August 29, 2008. For hard copies of the Plan, you may contact Eva Carrera at (213) 738-3190.

A Public Hearing has been tentatively scheduled for September 25, 2008, at the Wilshire Plaza Hotel, 3515 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90014 from 12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.

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If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the proposed MHSA WET Plan, please contact Dennis Murata, Deputy Director at (213) 738-4978, email dmurata@dmh.lacounty.gov.

MJS:DM:EC:ada

c: Sheila Shima, DCEO, Health & Mental Health Services
Stephanie J. Farrell, County Counsel
Robin Kay, Ph.D., DMH
Mental Health Commission